

Memorandum

To : The Conservancy
The Advisory Committee

Date: November 10, 2008

From :  Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Hon. ASLA, Executive Director

Subject: **Agenda Item 13: Consideration of resolution adopting a project plan for the Sunnynook Los Angeles River Project, Los Angeles.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Conservancy adopt the attached resolution recommending adopting a project plan for the Sunnynook Los Angeles River Project, Los Angeles.

Legislative Authority: Section 33209 of the Public Resources Code provides, in part, as follows:

Every project submitted for funding pursuant to section 33208 shall have an adopted project plan...

Background: At the June 23, 2008 board meeting, the Conservancy approved a grant of Proposition 84 funds in the amount of \$1,350,000 to the City of Los Angeles for the Sunnynook Los Angeles River Project, Los Angeles. The proposed action would adopt a project plan for the activities funded by the Proposition 84 grant.

The Sunnynook River Park will be located along the Glendale-Narrows reach of the Los Angeles River, a portion of the River that supports a diversity of wildlife due to its naturalized (soft-bottom) streambed. The project, located on a Caltrans easement, will create a new 3.4-acre park directly adjacent to the existing Los Angeles River Bikeway north of the Glendale-Hyperion bridge. The north edge of the new park will connect to the existing Sunnynook pedestrian bridge that extends eastward across the river to Atwater Village as well as westward across the Golden State Freeway (I-5) to Griffith Park. The project is within the Rim of the Valley Trail Corridor.

Improvements in the new park will include a walking path, large areas of riparian and upland habitat restoration, and interpretive elements, and the park will be designed to retain and infiltrate stormwater. The new habitat areas will strengthen and supplement existing habitat both on the river and in Griffith Park, particularly for avian species. The park will be constructed by the City's Bureau of Engineering and maintained by the City's Department of Recreation and Parks.

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